

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 92-156

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

AMENDING ORDER NOS. 88-105 AND 91-153 REQUIRING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO CEASE AND DESIST DISCHARGING WASTE FROM ITS SOUTHEAST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT CONTRARY TO DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS IN ORDER NOS. 84-27, 84-28, AND 87-120 (NPDES PERMITS)

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. The City and County of San Francisco (hereinafter called the City) owns and operates the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant. The plant treats sewage from the eastern two-thirds of the city, discharging it to San Francisco Bay via a deep water outfall at Pier 80 (Army Street terminal). During wet weather periods, effluent flows in excess of 110 mgd are discharged to Islais Creek via a near shore outfall at Quint Street. During an average rainfall year, such discharges occur 47 times for 600 hours/year and total 1,700 million gallons/year.
2. On June 20, 1984, the Board issued waste discharger requirements for the Southeast plant in Order No. 84-027 (NPDES permit CA0037664). On the same date, the Board adopted a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. 84-029, requiring the City to cease and desist from discharging waste contrary to the requirements in Order No. 84-027. Specifically, the City was violating the prohibition against discharge of waste with less than 10:1 initial dilution. On June 21, 1989, the Board reissued the Southeast plant's NPDES permit in Order No. 89-101. Subsequently, the Board amended the CDO twice and adopted Orders Nos. 88-105 and 91-153 on June 15, 1988 and October 16, 1991 respectively.
3. The City has made good progress in completing wastewater projects necessary to comply with Order No. 88-105. In a October 13, 1992 letter, the City requested an extension in the compliance dates for Order No. 91-153. The Order requires the City to develop remedial programs to eliminate the wet weather discharge of primary effluent to the Islais Creek by January 1994. The City's initial design is to construct a 150 million gallons per day chlorination system so that only secondary effluent would be discharged into Islais Creek during the wet weather periods. In light of the recent development of the Ultraviolet (UV) waste water treatment technology, the City requests additional months for the City to evaluate the potential benefit of using UV

radiation for disinfection. Available information suggests that UV treatment is far superior than the conventional chlorination system. The UV disinfection process eliminates the discharge of undesirable chlorinated byproducts into the San Francisco Bay.

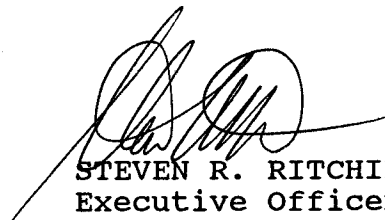
4. In the October 13, 1992 letter the City also requests an extension of the compliance date for the completion of the Islais Creek Transport system. Due to the intricate nature of the construction and the land acquisition for the system, the existing compliance date of June 1994 stated in Order No. 88-105 will add considerable financial burden to the City. The City indicated that the completion of June 1994 for the transport system of approximately eighteen months prior to the completion date of January 1, 1996 for the Islais Creek pump station would not provide any net environmental benefit because the Islais Creek Transport System can not operate without the pump station.
5. This action to amend an order enforcing waste discharge requirements adopted by the Board is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15121 of the Resources Agency CEQA Guidelines.
6. The discharger and interested persons have been notified of the Board's intent to amend the enforcement order, and have been provided with the opportunity for a public hearing and the opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
7. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- A. Order Nos. 88-105 and 91-153, issued to the City and County of San Francisco, shall be amended as shown below.

	Existing Completion Date	New Completion Date
Order No. 88-105, Section C.5.d (Completion of Islais Creek Transport System)	June 1, 1994	January 1, 1996
Order No. 91-153, Interim Measures 1. (Implement measures to eliminate primary effluent discharge into Islais Creek during wet weather)	January 1, 1994	November 30, 1994

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on December 16, 1992.



STEVEN R. RITCHIE
Executive Officer